

PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: 2558B-059411US

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

Michael I. WATKINS et al.

Examiner:

Art Unit:

Application No.:

Filed: Herwith

For: MULTIPLEX FLOW ASSAYS  
PREFERABLY WITH MAGNETIC  
PARTICLES AS SOLID PHASE

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment accompanies the divisional patent application filed herewith. Prior to examination, please make the following amendments.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 1 change the paragraph “CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION” to read:

This application is a division of application serial no. 09/302,920 filed April 30, 1999, <sup>now U.S. Patent No. 6,280,618,</sup> which is a continuation-in-part of application serial no. 08/972,563 filed November 18, 1997, <sup>now abandoned,</sup> the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference.

IN THE CLAIMS:

**Please cancel claims 1-20. Claims 21-49 remain for examination.**

Respectfully submitted,

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